

FROM : MICHAEL COLBY

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Docket No. J&J 1882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shun Lin, et al.

Serial No.: 09/471,825

Art Unit: 1617

Filed: December 23, 1999

Examiner: L. Q. Wells

For: CONTROLLED RELEASE COMPOSITION

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April 7, 2003

(Date)

Andrea L. Colby

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

Andrea L. Colby

(Signature)

April 7, 2003

(Date of Signature)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Dear Sir:

This Response to Office Action is respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action rendered December 6, 2002. It is timely submitted in view of the Petition for Extension of Time submitted concurrently herewith.

The compositions of applicants' invention relate to freeze-dried compositions that provide fast as well as sustained release of pharmaceutically active agents. Surprisingly, notwithstanding the different characteristics and ingredients of the fast and slow release phases of the compositions of applicants' invention, the compositions of applicants' invention do not crack or easily disintegrate. The